



19 January 2007

INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: Flood Control and Coastal Emergencies (FCCE) Program

1. Purpose: Provide an overview of Honolulu District's FCCE program.
2. Points of Major Interest and Facts. Public Law 84-99 establishes an emergency fund to be spent by the Chief of Engineers on activities related to floods, droughts and other natural disasters. Pre-disaster actions include the disaster preparedness planning and Continuing Eligibility Inspection (CEI) of Flood Control Works (FCW). Post-disaster actions include (a) flood fighting/response; (b) post-flood response; and (c) rehabilitation.
 - a. Disaster preparedness is the basic funding source for Honolulu District's Emergency Management Division day-to-day operations. Disaster Preparedness includes planning for all types of natural or man-made disasters, but not war/military contingencies.
 - b. CEI entails periodic inspection of a Flood Control Works (FCW) and Hurricane Shore Protection program (HSPP) to ensure that the projects are providing the designed level of protection (i.e. maintenance is being done by the sponsor to maintain the project as built). All federally constructed projects are automatically included within CEI. Other public-owned projects may be eligible for inclusion, but must be identified and have requested an Initial Eligibility Inspection (IEI) in advance of the disaster causing the damage.
 - c. Flood response involves providing technical or direct assistance in support of an ongoing flood fight. This allows us to send experts to consult with the state or counties; send them sandbags or pumps for flood fighting purposes; or provide emergency contracting services to strengthen or raise levees, etc. According to Corps policy (found in Engineering Regulation 500-1-1), this authority ceases to exist "when the flood waters recede back to bankfull." Thus, pumps may be provided to fight rising waters, but may not be sent to de-water an already flooded area.
 - d. Post-flood response activities that are authorized include clearing debris from drainage channels, water supply intakes, transportation routes, etc. Significantly, this authority exists only for a period of 10 days and only where there has been no Presidential disaster declaration.
 - e. Rehabilitation work entails making repairs to FCW and HSPP damaged by floods or unusual wind or wave action. All federally constructed projects are automatically included within this authorization, and other public-owned projects are eligible if the IEI has been completed. This authority requires the production of a report addressing, among other things, the costs and benefits of rehabilitation. Approval for rehabilitation rests at Pacific Ocean Division. Federally constructed projects are repaired at a 100% federal share; non-federal projects in the program have an 80% federal share.
3. Work under PL 84-99 has no bearing on our authority to do work for FEMA under the Stafford Act; but coordination with FEMA is paramount.